

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the subject application:

--1. - 37. (Canceled)

38. (Previously Presented) A device for producing an option menu, said device comprising:
a plurality of image producing circuits, each said image producing circuit being capable of producing a video output; and
a processor coupled to said plurality of image producing circuits, said processor for configuring said video output of each of said plurality of image producing circuits to generate an option menu on a video display.

39. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 38, wherein each of said image producing circuits is capable of producing multiple background colors, multiple foreground colors, and a video display having a plurality of rows and columns of characters, and wherein each character comprises a plurality of pixels.

40 (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 38, wherein each said image producing circuit is capable of displaying characters in a plurality of fonts.

41. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 38, wherein each said image producing circuit is capable of displaying a plurality of colors.

42. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 38, wherein said processor combines video output from at least two of said image producing circuits for display on said video display.

43. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 38, wherein said device is disposed in a keyboard, video and cursor control device (KVM) switching system.

44. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 38, further comprising:

a plurality of cursor producing circuits for producing a cursor within said option menu, wherein said processor integrates said cursor with said option menu.

45. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 44, wherein said cursor within said option menu is controlled via an attached keyboard and/or cursor control device.

46. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 44, wherein said plurality of cursor producing circuits is comprised of at least one outline generating circuit for producing an outline of said cursor and at least one circuit for generating a body of said cursor.

47. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 44, further comprising:

a first clock for controlling a first timing of said plurality of image producing circuits; and

a second clock for controlling a second timing of said plurality of cursor producing circuits.

48. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 44, wherein said device is implemented on a daughter board to facilitate connection to a KVM switch system.

49. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 43, wherein dimensions of said option menu are variable.

50. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 43, wherein said option menu is displayed on the entire video display.

51. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 43, wherein color depth of said option menu can be changed using a keyboard or a cursor control device.

52. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 38, wherein said processor produces an option menu in digital video format.

53. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 38, wherein said processor produces said option menu in analog video format.

54. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 38, wherein said option menu is displayed on a 4:3 ratio video monitor.

55. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 38, wherein said option menu is displayed on a 16:9 ratio video monitor.

56. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 38, wherein said option menu is displayed in conjunction with an external video source.

57. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 47, wherein said processor combines said video output from said image producing circuits and said cursor producing circuits for display on said video display.

58. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 38, wherein said video output from a plurality of said image producing circuits are combined such that each said video output is displayed on a different section of said video display.

59. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 58, wherein each of said image producing circuits is an on screen display circuit.

60. (Withdrawn) An apparatus for producing an option menu for display on a video monitor in a computer management system to facilitate selection and control of any of a plurality of remote devices from a user workstation of the type including a keyboard, cursor control device and a video display, said apparatus comprising:

a daughter board including a plurality of circuits for producing a plurality of video output signals, and a processor for receiving said video output signals and for producing an option menu with said signals, wherein said option menu identifies said remote devices;

a first interface for coupling said workstation to a programmable switch; and

a second interface for coupling said programmable switch to said plurality of remote devices.

61. (Withdrawn) An according to claim 60, wherein said processor automatically updates said option menu if said remote devices are connected or disconnected.

62. (Withdrawn) An apparatus according to claim 60, wherein said option menu is generated utilizing said video output signals of at least one of said plurality of circuits.

63. (Withdrawn) An apparatus according to claim 60, further comprising:

at least one circuit for producing a cursor within said option menu, wherein said processor integrates said cursor with said option menu.

64. (Withdrawn) An apparatus according to claim 63, wherein said apparatus is disposed in a KVM switching system.

65. (Withdrawn) An apparatus according to claim 64, wherein said cursor is controlled via an attached keyboard or cursor control device.

66. (Withdrawn) An apparatus according to claim 65, wherein a user can select at least one said remote device from said option menu utilizing said cursor.

67. (Withdrawn) A method for producing an option menu for display on a video monitor in a computer management system to facilitate selection and control of any of a plurality of remote devices from a user workstation of the type including a keyboard, cursor control device and video display, said method comprising the steps of:

sending control signals and synchronization signals to a plurality of first circuits;

sending control signals and synchronization signals to a plurality of second circuits;

receiving video signals from at least one of said first circuits to produce an option menu for display on said video display; and

receiving video outputs from said second circuits to produce a cursor within said option menu, said cursor for use in selecting an item from said option menu.

68. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 67, wherein said item is an icon.

69. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 68, wherein said icon is representative of one of said plurality of remote devices.

70. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 67, wherein a user can select any one of said plurality of remote devices for control from said option menu.

71. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 67, wherein a user can select any one of said plurality of remote devices from said option menu to view a status of said remote device.

72. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 67, wherein a user can select any one of said plurality of remote devices from said option menu to perform diagnostics on said remote device.

73. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 67, wherein said received video output signals include horizontal and vertical synchronization signals.

74. (Withdrawn) A method for facilitating selection and control of a plurality of remote devices from a workstation of the type including a keyboard, cursor control device and a video display, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) selecting a remote device from a list of plurality of remote devices displayed on a video display by an option menu circuit;
- (b) receiving keyboard and cursor control device signals in response to said list, said signals indicating selection of said remote devices;
- (c) transmitting said signals to said remote device through a switch device; and
- (d) receiving video signals from said selected remote through said switch device.

75. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 74, wherein said option menu is produced by combining the output of a plurality of image producing circuits.

76. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 75, wherein a plurality of option menus are produced by said plurality of image producing circuits.

77. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 75, wherein said plurality of image producing circuits produces said option menu in a plurality of modes.